May 24, 2007

Federal (Ommunicutions (Ommissioners (FCC) 445 Twelfth Street SW Wishington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Martin, Commissioners Adelstein, Copps, McDowell, & Tax:

I am a hearing American Sign language student and very interested in the deaf culture. I was appailed to learn that the FCC Staff is intent on arastically Cutting the VRS availability for the deaf instead of Seeking to limit the number of deaf people with VRS access, the FCC Should do everything in its power to make VRS available to more deaf people.

Eventhough the VRS doesn't effect me in daily life 1 still believe you should'nt cultive funding. Many deaf people depend on the VRS, It helps them communicate better, make appointments easier, and its way faster than the TTY. The service serves a lot of ways for the deaf community to reach out to other deaf people and even hearing people. I've actually out a chance to use the VRS and life on a amazing

Bervic. 1 Mink all deaf people should be allowed to nove it whether they can afford it or not. Sincerely, Tayla Devanay

Taylor Devaney

Dear Chairman Martin, Commissioners Adelstein, Copps, McDowell, and Tate

I am a Junior at Camas High school in my second year of American Sign Language. I have learned a lot about the deat culture from my teacher. She has showed me a new perspective for the deat community.
I feel it is very important to that the FCC staff cloes not cut funds towards the URS. The URS is a way for the deaf community to have a more reliable way of communicating with eachother, a faster, more reliable device. if funds are cut, it shows the deat that they avent as important as the neuring. Many deat individuals depend on the URS and other relay services. Please stop any URS program cuts and please provide deaf people with functionally equivalent telecommunications services.

Sincerely, Genica Jummers Federal Communications Commission (FCC) 445 Twelfth Street SW Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Martin, Commissioners Adelstein, Copps, McDowell, and Tate:

I am a hearing student just about to finish up my second year of American Sign Language. My plan is to graduate in 2008 and become an interpreter. In my sign class we have spent a lot of time learning about VRS system and other deaf technologies. When learning about these I am amazing that such original things can be created to help deaf in their everyday activities. I think if the VRS lost funding it would greatly affect the deaf and hearing community. The VRS is a very important component of the deaf life and without it their life would be made more difficult. I think instead of cutting the funding they should increase it and help put the VRS in more households. Thank you for listening and I hope you consider this side of the problem. Cutting deaf VRS funding would make life more difficult for deaf people and should not happen.

Sincerely,

Emily Pavlina

Dear chairman Martin, Commissioners Adelstein, Copps, McDowell, and Tate:

I am not deaf; I am a hearing student at camas high school. I am second year in American Sign Language. Over the last two year my opinions on deaf people have changed, I have realized that they are people too. My teacher told us that the FCC was intending on directly cutting funds for VRS (video relay service). The VRS is imperative to fast, easy communication in the deaf culture.

Deaf culture is American, therefore e maybe you should take the time to learn it before you deprive people of their born rights as American citizens.

VRS is a great way for deaf people to communicate with deaf and hearing people. I along with many people who feel the same way urge you to do everything you can to make VRS service available to the many deaf people who currently do not have access to this vital life-changing service.

The VRS rate should encourage the VRS providers to:

- Serve more deaf people, not discourage them from reaching out to more deaf people.
- Provide interpreter training programs so that there will be an adequate number of qualified interpreters for VRS and the local deaf community.
- Provide services and technology improvements, such as the development of new videophone equipment, fulfilling the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) mandate of functionally equivalent telecommunications services

Thank you for taking the time to listen to my concerns.

Sincerely,

Survey Williams

Dear Chairman Martin, Commissioners Adelstein, Copps, McDowell, and Tate:

I am a student here at Camas High School in American Sign Language 2 class. I do not personally use the video relay service, but I do socialize in the Deaf community and they have nothing but good things to say about it. The video relay service makes their lives much easier to talk to people. I was appalled to learn that the FCC staff is intent on drastically cutting the VRS rate, and effectively cutting VRS availability for the deaf. Instead of seeking to limit the number of deaf people with VRS access, the FCC should do everything in its power to make VRS available to more deaf people. Our teacher here at CHS has a deaf husband and his life has been made much easier, because the VRS is faster than typing on the TTY. With the TTY he has been hung up on several times and since they have gotten VRS he has not had many problems with communicating.

Many Deaf individuals use these services in both work and personal life. It is an important way in which they communicate with both the hearing and the deaf individuals. I urge you to please do everything you can to make VRS available to the many deaf people who currently do not have access to this vital, life-altering service.

The VRS rate should encourage the VRS providers to:

aura Brusch

- Serve more deaf people, not discourage them from reaching out to more deaf people.
- Provide interpreter training programs so that there will be an adequate number of qualified interpreters for VRS and the local Deaf communities.
- Provide service and technology improvements, such as the development of new videophone equipment, fulfilling the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) mandate of functionally equivalent telecommunications services.

Sincerely,

Laura Brizek

Camas High School ASL Student

Dear Chairman Martin, Commissioners Adelstein, Copps, McDowell, and Tate:

I am a advanced ASL student that has personal connections with many deaf people. All the deaf people I know rely on Video Relay Service to communicate with other deaf people or family members. I was actually involved in learning how to use this new system and teach it to other deaf people. Then to see how happy they were when they saw how easy it was to communicate with friends and love ones it was priceless. If the programs funding was cut I do not think the government would know how big of a negative impact it would have on the deaf culture. If anything the FCC should increase funding for the VRS so that all deaf people have access to it.

I along with all my of deaf friends use this system to communicate with each other. It also is a huge asset to deaf businesses. Since VRS has been created deaf businesses communications have increased drastically in a positive manner. If the funding was cut for the VRS deaf businesses have a larger chance of going under. I urge you greatly to do everything in your power to make VRS available for more deaf Americans and not have the funding cut.

The VRS rate should encourage the VRS providers to:

- Serve more deaf people, not discourage them from reaching out to more deaf people
- Provide interpreter training programs so that there will be a adequate number of qualified interpreters for the VRS
- Provide Service and technology improvements for deaf Americans following the ADA Act

Once again I along with other deaf individuals, their families and coworkers, depend on VRS and other relay services. Please stop any VRS program cuts and fulfill the mandate of the Americans with Disabilities Act to provide deaf people with functional equivalent telecommunications services.

Sincerely

Mikella, Ojeda

Dear Chairman Martin, Commissioners Adelstein, Copps, McDowell, and Tate:

I am a deaf person and I use Video Relay Service (VRS) to communicate. I was appalled to learn that the FCC staff is intent on drastically cutting the VRS rate, and effectively cutting VRS availability for the deaf. Instead of seeking to limit the number of deaf people with VRS access, the FCC should do everything in its power to make VRS available to more deaf people.

I, along with other Deaf individuals, use these services in both my work and personal life. It is an important way in which I/we communicate with both hearing and deaf individuals. I urge you to do everything you can to make VRS service available to the many deaf people who currently do not have access to this vital, life-changing service.

The VRS rate should encourage the VRS providers to:

- Serve more deaf people, not discourage them from reaching out to more deaf people
- Provide interpreter training programs so that there will be an adequate number of qualified interpreters for VRS and the local Deaf communities
- Provide service and technology improvements, such as the development of new videophone equipment, fulfilling the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) mandate of functionally equivalent telecommunications services

I, along with other deaf individuals, their families and coworkers, depend on VRS and other relay services.

Please stop any VRS program cuts and fulfill the mandate of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) to provide deaf people with functionally equivalent telecommunications services.

Sincerely.

Boverly A. Semanyk

Dear Chairman Martin, Commissioners Adelstein, Copps, McDowell, and Tate:

I am not a deaf person but I do care for the Video Relay Service (VRS). I was displeased to learn that the FCC staff is intent of significantly cutting the VRS rate, and effectively cutting VRS availability for the deaf. Instead of seeking to limit the number of deaf people with VRS access, the FCC should do everything in its power to make VRS available to more deaf people.

I don't use these services but I do care for deaf people. It's an important for deaf people to communicate with bother hearing and deaf people. I strongly suggest you to do everything you can to make RVS service available to the many deaf people who currently do not have access to this vital, life-changing service.

The VRS rate should encourage the VRS providers to:

- Serve more deaf people, not discourage them from reaching out to more deaf people
- Provide interpreter training programs so that there will be an adequate number of qualified interpreters for VRS and the local Deaf communities
- Provide service and technology improvements, such as the development of new videophone equipment, fulfilling the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) mandate of functionally equivalent telecommunication services

Sincerely.

Patrick Thoits

Patrick Photos

RE: CG Docket No. 03-123 Federal Communications Commission (FCC) 445 Twelfth Street SW Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Martin, Commissioners Adelstein, Copps, McDowell, and Tate:

I am a deaf student and I use Video Relay Service (VRS) to communicate. I was surprised and shocked to learn that the FCC staff is intent on drastically cutting the VRS rate, and effectively cutting VRS availability for the deaf. Instead of seeking to limit the number of deaf people with VRS access, the FCC should do everything in its power to make VRS available to more deaf people.

I, along with other Deaf individuals, use these services in both my school and personal life. It is an important way in which I/we communicate with both hearing and deaf individuals. I urge you to do everything you can to make VRS service available to the many deaf people who currently do not have access to this vital, life-changing service. There is a Fourteenth Amendment that says all citizens have the same right to life, liberty, or property, without due process of law: nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws especially the Americans with Disabilities Act and The Telecommunications Act of 1996.

The VRS rate should encourage the VRS providers to:

- Serve more deaf people, not discourage them from reaching out to more deaf people
- Provide interpreter training programs so that there will be an adequate number of qualified interpreters for VRS and the local Deaf communities
- Provide service and technology improvements, such as the development of new videophone equipment, fulfilling the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) mandate of functionally equivalent telecommunications services

I, along with other deaf individuals, their families, school employees and students, depend on VRS and other relay services.

Please stop any VRS program cuts and fulfill the mandate of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) to provide deaf people with functionally equivalent telecommunications services.

Sincerely, Novareo Half

Navarro Hali MSSD Student

Linda M. McGrory 2 Delmonte Place Villa Monterey Wilmington, Delaware 19809 May 27, 2007' - Sunday

Chairman Kevin Martin
Commissioners Adelstein, Copps, McDowell, and Tate
Federal Communications Commission
RE: CG 03-123
445 Twelfth Street SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Mr. Kevin Martin,

I'm writing about the Video Relay Service(VRS).

I learned about it through one of my friends. I was not pleased when I heard about it.

However, I'm going to write you a letter about what I think of VRS. Here it goes...

I have been using it a lot by talking to my (deaf) friends & by talking to my (hearing) friends like for instance, my sister, my husband.

Just remember ADA(American Disabilities Act) so it is a part of what we, the deaf individuals, needs in real life.

Please DO NOT eliminate VRS!

When I first was using it, I thought it was a HUGE miracle technology because they were VERY HELFFUL!!!!

I was amazed of how it works & I was so excited by using VRS also, not only VRS but talk to my deaf friends as well!!

In addition, I must add something because it is true(my friend reminded me too...Just remember that SOME DEAF INDIVIDUALS,

who can't read or write very well(meaning their english grammar was not perfect) due to their level of reading or writing grammar. They really needs VRS as well because it will help them understand better when they talk to each other over VRS.

It is the MOST IMPORTANT that we, all of us, including hearing, needs VRS for daily use!! I know we would be appreciate that VRS should be expanded. Also, remember there are, probably MILLIONS deaf people out there who need it too!!

So, please keep VRS expanding!!!! To add to that, please add 911 services(for the local areas) too!! We need that also for in an emergency service!! Thank you!!

Sincerely,

Linda M. McGrory

Dear Chairman, commissioner, Adetstein, Copps, Mc Dowell and tates

Video relay service is a commonly used by Both deaf and hearing people pulling the funds on it will be unfair and many people will be made angry. Indoing this you want only make people angry but you will start a huge crist because provide will people communicate with other people. Pulling the Runds is, like take our nights and it shouldn't bealtoned. If you do pull the funds you arecuting of fapiece of the deaf world.

Sincerly Christednarek Camas High school Student Dear Chairman Martin, Commissioners, Copps, McDowell, and tate:

I am a ASLII Student at camas High School and I was very upset when I found out the the Fac stoff is cutting the VRS rate, and effectively cutting VRS availability for the deaf. I think Fac should make vrs available to more deaf people recouse deaf people have the right to be able to communicate when their not airectly signing with the person and vrs is the fastest and easiest way. Alot of deaf people rely on vrs for communication and it shouldn't be taken away from them.

Sincerely,

Brittany Davidson

Brittany Davidson

Dear Commission Adelstien:

I am a hearing student involved in a ASL class in Camas, WA. I think that taking this class has been a great experience, and I hope to further in this language so that I can communicate and understand deaf culture clearly. When I was in my ASL class my teacher had informed the class that they were thinking about FCC staff is going to cut out VRS rate-I almost fell out of my chair. I think that this is a bad decision and that FCC should change it over because it would be the best way to keep deaf people involved.

I know of deaf people that depend on using this source and I feel that if they take it out it will do nothing but go in a drastic wrong direction. It is probably the only way that deaf and hearing people are able to communicate when they aren't face to face, and I don't understand the reasoning for wanting to take that away.

The VRS should encourage providers to:

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- *Think about how it can affect deaf culture and their way of communicating
- *Advertise the product more so that their will be a greater audience for the product because not that many hearing people can support something if they aren't really aware of it.
- *Have it be more accessible, and have the prices cut

I would really appreciate, and I think that I am talking for a lot of other people who are concerned about this matter, I think that taking this product idea will be a completely horrible idea. Please look over the letter that I have just wrote you and take under consideration what you could change if you just put your mind to it.

Sincerely,

Kearns, Kevin

From: Kc.Kearns@hotmail.com
Sent: Thursday, May 24, 2007

To: Schelerg@aol.com

Subject: Comments concerning cut funds on video relay.

RE. CG Docket No. 03-123 Federal Communications Commissions 445 Twelfth Street SW Washington, DC 20554

Dear, Chairman Martin, Commissioners Adelstein, Copps, McDowell, and Tate:

Communications the way that one person can communicate with another person. This is one of the most important aspects of a human being. Many people consider this what separates us as humans from the animals. But, the FCC is cutting the funding from deaf people within the American community. Even though I am actual member of the deaf community I believe the right to communicate. You would not cut the funding on the telephone or internet, so why would you cut the communication in which deaf American's use daily.

Through the past years the video relay service has been giving the deaf community. The right to communicate with each other and those who have certain knowledge of ASL. It helps deaf individuals achieve a certain security with their own culture. But, why would you as a human take away ones right to easily communicate with each other. This fact has shocked me as an individual of the hearing community that we would willingly cut the communications of the deaf community.

I don't know how many people are going to right into to stop or try to stop these cuts. For all I know I may stand alone. But, standing alone for a cause like this is more important this letting it settle that destroy the lives of many deaf individuals. To cut the VRS is a immoral act to take. Because to lower the way of communications in the deaf community has is wrong and these actions should not be taken.

| Sincerely; | |
|------------|--|
| 2in | |

Cutting any of the deaf communities' forms of communications is wrong and should be stopped immediately.

may 23,07 Dear Chairman Martin Commissioners Adabotem Copps, Me Dowell and Tate: There would to the and hard of heaving. Finally the technology beard available for Deal to consumments in their first Linguage arrevican Son Language. Videa Relly albub low language Sevel Ded to communicate because of the highly skilled interpretation of all have worked with Dear people Proposionally for 30 years. I am married to Doof men and have witnessed how WES top opened up the hearing would to him. There Conversations are more, easy merchants or longer hanglup conversations are fast and smooth. fagringent their chart rue English language skille. able to converse via VRS. to cut funding when Das people are

Sundly getting equal access

Sundly ADA.

Discommend you

rethink how cuts well negatively

unfact People with

communication disabilities.

Hose Wolls

ASL Dea Ser

Wife of Deaf

Dear Chairman Martin, Commissioners Adelstein, Copps, McDowell and Tate:

I am a junior at camas High School I went with my teacher Karen Wales, of my 2ndyear american Sign language class to the Sovenson lenter and used the video relay. I think that its right cutting this program would be like taking phones away from hearing people. The FCC should do everything in its power to make VRS available to more deaf not take It away. Though I don't personally use it, but i do know people who do I would be outroged if my phone was totally taken away. It's completly taking their communication away. It blows my mind that people don't see anything wrong with cutting this program. I hope you take this letter to heart and fully understand how you are away and putting a berrior up between the hearing and deaf worlds.

Sincenerly, Taylor Schoendorf.

RE: CG Docket No. 03-123
Federal Communications Commission (FCC)
445 Twelfth Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Martin, Commissioners Adelstein, Copps, McDowell, and Tate:

I am a deaf student and I use Video Relay Service (VRS) to communicate. I was surprised and shocked to learn that the FCC staff is intent on drastically cutting the VRS rate, and effectively cutting VRS availability for the deaf. Instead of seeking to limit the number of deaf people with VRS access, the FCC should do everything in its power to make VRS available to more deaf people.

I, along with other Deaf individuals, use these services in both my school and personal life. It is an important way in which I/we communicate with both hearing and deaf individuals. I urge you to do everything you can to make VRS service available to the many deaf people who currently do not have access to this vital, life-changing service. There is a Fourteenth Amendment that says all citizens have the same right to life, liberty, or property, without due process of law: nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws especially the Americans with Disabilities Act and The Telecommunications Act of 1996.

The VRS rate should encourage the VRS providers to:

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- Serve more deaf people, not discourage them from reaching out to more deaf people
- Provide interpreter training programs so that there will be an adequate number of qualified interpreters for VRS and the local Deaf communities
- Provide service and technology improvements, such as the development of new videophone equipment, fulfilling the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) mandate of functionally equivalent telecommunications services

I, along with other deaf individuals, their families, school employees and students, depend on VRS and other relay services.

Please stop any VRS program cuts and fulfill the mandate of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) to provide deaf people with functionally equivalent telecommunications services.

Sincerely,

Dashawn.Mobley MSSD Student

RE: CG Docket No. 03-123 Federal Communications Commission (FCC) 445 Twelfth Street SW Washington, DC 20554

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Sincerely,

Jack W. Green MSSD Student

RE: CG Docket No. 03-123
Federal Communications Commission (FCC)
445 Twelfth Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Martin, Commissioners Adelstein, Copps, McDowell, and Tate:

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I, along with other Deaf individuals, use these services in both my school and personal life. It is an important way in which I/we communicate with both hearing and deaf individuals. I urge you to do everything you can to make VRS service available to the many deaf people who currently do not have access to this vital, life-changing service. There is a Fourteenth Amendment that says all citizens have the same right to life, liberty, or property, without due process of law: nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws especially the Americans with Disabilities Act and The Telecommunications Act of 1996.

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Sincerely,

Lark Mcnamara MSSD Student

RE: CG Docket No. 03-123
Federal Communications Commission (FCC)
445 Twelfth Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Martin, Commissioners Adelstein, Copps, McDowell, and Tate:

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Please stop any VRS program cuts and fulfill the mandate of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) to provide deaf people with functionally equivalent telecommunications services.

Sincerely,

Jaynda Dowdy

MSSD Student

RE: CG Docket No. 03-123
Federal Communications Commission (FCC)
445 Twelfth Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

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Please stop any VRS program cuts and fulfill the mandate of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) to provide deaf people with functionally equivalent telecommunications services.

Sincerely,

Sara Moore MSSD Student

Sara Moore

RE: CG Docket No. 03-123
Federal Communications Commission (FCC)
445 Twelfth Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Martin, Commissioners Adelstein, Copps, McDowell, and Tate:

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Sincerely,

Shayna/Crowell MSSD Student

RE: CG Docket No. 03-123
Federal Communications Commission (FCC)
445 Twelfth Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

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I am a deaf student and I use Video Relay Service (VRS) to communicate. I was surprised and shocked to learn that the FCC staff is intent on drastically cutting the VRS rate, and effectively cutting VRS availability for the deaf. Instead of seeking to limit the number of deaf people with VRS access, the FCC should do everything in its power to make VRS available to more deaf people.

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Sincefely,

Zamida Gage MSSD Student

RE: CG Docket No. 03-123 Federal Communications Commission (FCC) 445 Twelfth Street SW Washington, DC 20554

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I, along with other deaf individuals, their families, school employees and students, depend on VRS and other relay services.

Please stop any VRS program cuts and fulfill the mandate of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) to provide deaf people with functionally equivalent telecommunications services.

Sincerely.

Jahmal Jones
MSSD Student

RE: CG Docket No. 03-123 Federal Communications Commission (FCC) 445 Twelfth Street SW Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Martin, Commissioners Adelstein, Copps, McDowell, and Tate:

I am a deaf student and I use Video Relay Service (VRS) to communicate. I was surprised and shocked to learn that the FCC staff is intent on drastically cutting the VRS rate, and effectively cutting VRS availability for the deaf. Instead of seeking to limit the number of deaf people with VRS access, the FCC should do everything in its power to make VRS available to more deaf people.

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Jeremy Smith MSSD Student

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Marquita Whitfield

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Timothy Martin MSSD Student

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Sincerely,

Manuel Contreras, Jr MSSD Student Page 2 Kevin J. Representative Martin Walsh May 29, 2007

Respectfully, we share a goal to advance the interests of the citizens of Vermont. The opportunity to build a nationwide broadband network that not only enables public safety to achieve true interoperability but will deploy broadband technologies in our rural areas is in the best interests of the people of Vermont and the United States and is, therefore, of paramount importance to us.

Thank you in advance, for your support.

Sincerely,

Matthew Vinci President

Copy:

The Honorable Senator Patrick Leahy
The Honorable Senator Bernie Sanders
The Honorable Congressman Peter Welch

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Federal Communications Commission (FCC)
445 Twelfth Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

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Julia Bidwell MSSD Student

Julia Ordwell

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Jucy Brown